

City Employes Give Nollac Defense Fund

Torrance Press-Herald

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FOUNTAIN FINANCE . . . Councilman William J. Uerkwitz radiates enthusiasm as he accepts checks for the proposed Civic Center Fountain from local car dealers Russ Thor (left) and Ronald Moran. Representing their dealerships, Russ Thor Volkswagen and Ronald Moran Cadillac, the dealers each contributed \$500 toward the fountain fund. Uerkwitz hopes to reach his goal of \$10,000 by mid-1969. Donations are being sought from area civic groups and businesses. (Press-Herald Photo)

Goal Is \$10,000

Car Dealers Add To Fountain Fund

The Civic Center fountain campaign was advanced a notch Wednesday when two prominent Torrance car dealers each contributed \$500 to the fund. Ronald Moran Cadillac and Russ Thor Volkswagen became the first local businesses to make a contribution toward the \$10,000 goal. Southwood Riviera Homeowners' Association previously contributed \$100. Moran and Thor formally presented their contributions Wednesday at City Hall, bringing the fund to a total of \$1,100. On hand to receive their checks was Councilman William J. Uerkwitz, father of the fountain project.

Uerkwitz pointed out that the two dealers represent the largest and the smallest cars sold in Torrance, perhaps signifying that large and small contributions will be gratefully accepted.

'Outlook' Luncheon Scheduled

The Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce will present its second annual program delving into the economic future of Torrance Thursday, Jan. 23.

The luncheon program, which will be highlighted by a panel discussion on the topic, "Outlook 1969," will be held at the Latitude 20 Restaurant, 3901 W. Pacific Coast Hwy.

Brian J. K. Bell, assistant to the president of the Hi-Shear Corp. and member relations chairman of the Chamber, will moderate the panel discussion.

Featured on the panel will be: Don Baker, general manager of Bullock's Fashion Square, who will discuss the future picture for retail concerns in the city.

Edward J. Ferraro, Torrance city manager, whose topic will be municipal government.

Jack Heidt, regional vice president and manager of Union Bank, who will examine the fi-

Uerkwitz said he hopes to raise the \$10,000 locally by mid-1969 — in time for the fountain to be included in the building of the proposed City Hall addition. Another \$10,000 will be contributed toward the project from the city's general fund. Contributions will be sought from local civic groups, businesses, individuals, and homeowners' associations. In order to encourage contributions, each group or individual donating \$100 or more will be entitled to an engraved plaque in the vicinity of the fountain.

Uerkwitz said he conceived of the idea for the fountain after visiting many community civic centers. He found that many of them featured fountains as the central attractions of their civic complexes. The councilmen lat-

er discovered that a fountain had been considered as a part of the proposed city hall addition, but plans had been abandoned because of the high cost.

Uerkwitz commented that two types of fountains are being considered for the project: sculptured centerpiece, and programmed water, in which the sprays perform a dance-like movement, augmented by colored lights.

THE FOUNTAIN will shoot water 20 feet into the air, cascading into a reflection pool 30 by 40 feet in size.

Uerkwitz noted that several fountain designers have volunteered their help in planning the project. One fish fancier even offered to donate priceless Japanese Carp to swim in the fountain pool, Uerkwitz chortled.



OUTLOOK '69 . . . The Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce will present its second annual "Outlook" program for area businessmen Thursday, Jan. 23, at the Latitude 20 Restaurant, 3901 Pacific Coast Hwy. The program is devoted to a discussion of issues and problems which local businessmen may expect to face during 1969. Pictured here during a planning session held earlier this week are (standing, from left) Ray Watt, of R. A. Watt Construction Co.; City Manager Edward J. Ferraro; and Jack Teske, representing the Garrett AirResearch Manufacturing Co.; and (seated, from left) Don Baker, general manager of Bullock's Fashion Square; Jack Heidt, regional vice president and manager of Union Bank; and Brian J. K. Bell, moderator for the panel discussion. (Press-Herald Photo)

Building Permits Top \$43 Million for Year

50 Per Cent Increase Over 1968 Recorded

Building permits valued at \$3.5 million were issued in Torrance during December, bringing to more than \$43.5 million the total of 1968.

Final figures for the year showed an increase of some \$15 million over the 1967 totals — an increase of more than 50 per cent.

John J. McKinnon, superintendent of building and safety, said 151 permits were issued during December. Actual valuation was put at \$3,570,981.

MORE THAN a third of the total was for new commercial facilities in the city. Largest of those permits was issued to John Sainsvain for construction of a six-story medical-dental building.

To be located at 3400 Lomita Blvd., in the Tor-Med complex adjacent to the new Torrance Memorial Hospital, the building represents the second phase of the Tor-Med complex. Permits also were issued to the R. G. Harris Co. for a new factory and office building at 23215 Garnier St. (\$310,080); to David Karney for a warehouse at 2806 California St. (\$19,840); and to Mark C. Bloomer for a retail tire store at 20345 Hawthorne Blvd. (\$60,000).

DECEMBER permits also provided for 13 new single-family homes, valued at \$361,625, and

Cave-in Claims Worker's Life

A 43-year-old workman died of asphyxiation Wednesday when a 10-foot ditch at a construction site caved in on him.

Dead on arrival at Harbor General Hospital about 3 p.m. was Evaristo Alaniz of Pacoima. Firemen removed his body from construction site at 2300 Crenshaw Blvd.

for 85 new apartment units valued at more than \$930,000.

In addition, permits were issued for the demolition of 14 dwelling units. Those permits were issued to the city's Redevelopment Agency for removal of structures in the Meadow Park Redevelopment Area.

Actual value of all building permits issued by the city during 1968 was put at \$43,550,256 — up from \$28,677,176 for 1967, according to McKinnon's report.

Reagan Message Praised

Assemblyman Vincent Thomas (D-San Pedro) Wednesday called Governor Ronald Reagan's state of the state message, delivered to the Legislature Tuesday, the "most organized and all-inclusive" talk by a governor he has heard in 29 years of service in the Assembly.

Thomas said he was particularly pleased the Governor was calling for more tax relief for California citizens within the framework of a balanced budget.

In addition, he strongly supported the Governor's proposals to incorporate all tax agencies of the state government into a new State Department of Revenue.

AS CHAIRMAN of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee, Thomas said he and his group had supported the proposal for many years and that he was "delighted the Governor had included this in his 1969 program."

Said Thomas: "I am convinced this proposal would eliminate considerable waste and result in tax savings."

THOMAS also endorsed Reagan's get-tough attitude toward the rioting and strife on campuses of the state university and college systems.

"I join the Governor in his expressed intent to maintain academic freedom and college independence. However, the Governor is absolutely correct in his determination to crack down on the irresponsible elements seeking to disrupt and even to destroy the state-supported system of higher education. The Governor can be assured of my support for all these programs," Thomas concluded.

Jewelry Taken by Burglars

Burglars cut through a screen and forced open a window sometime Wednesday afternoon and took jewelry valued at \$3,000 from a Torrance home.

Mrs. Marlene Elliott reported the theft. Police said someone cut through a window screen at the home, located at 2811 Olive St.

Taken were rings, watches valued at \$3,000 and \$7.50 in Kennedy half-dollars.



JAYCEE WEEK . . . A proclamation designating the week of Jan. 19 through 25 as "Jaycee Week" in Torrance has been signed by Mayor Albert Isen, shown here presenting the proclamation to Don Lee (left), the local Jaycees' director of public relations, and Leon Taylor, Jaycee president, urged all local businesses and organizations to cooperate in the Torrance observance of the national event. Highlight of the week, according to Lee, will be the naming of a young man from Torrance to receive the Jaycees' "Distinguished Service Award." Local winners of the award will be considered by national groups which will select America's Ten Outstanding Young Men. (Press-Herald Photo)

New President Approves \$600 Check for Nollac

A check for \$600 was presented to Walter M. Nollac yesterday by the Torrance City Employees Association (TCEA).

The money was granted to help Nollac pay legal expenses in his fight against misconduct charges brought against him by City Manager Edward J. Ferraro. Nollac was suspended Dec. 16 from his post at Torrance director of public works.

TCEA previously allotted Nollac \$300 in the fall of 1968 to defray legal expenses incurred in Nollac's first misconduct hearing before the Civil Service Commission. The commission found Nollac innocent of any wrongdoing at the first hearing, but reprimanded him for poor judgment.

A DATE for the second hearing will probably be set at Monday's meeting of the Civil Service Commission.

The \$600 payment was granted to Nollac Dec. 17 by a 5-0 vote of the TCEA board of directors. Ray Saukkola, who was president of the board at the time, was not present, and later termed the meeting "illegal" because he says he was not properly informed of the event.

A new board of directors, under the presidency of Frank Yancey, took office Jan. 6. Yancey commented that his board is only carrying out the will of the previous board, noting that his predecessor had taken no action to deliver the funds to Nollac.

THE CONTRIBUTION to Nollac met with some opposition, however. Some 70 members (out of a total membership of 200) presented a petition to the new board Monday objecting to this use of association funds.

Saukkola made a motion at Monday's meeting to take a vote of the membership on the mat-

ter, but it died for lack of a second.

TCEA members are each levied \$1 per month in dues.

SAUKKOLA complained last summer to the City Council and the Civil Service Commission when Nollac attempted to transfer him to a different section within the engineering department. Saukkola claimed the change would interfere with his studies in preparation for taking the state bar examination.

Lomita Bypass Route Asked for Freeway

A resolution asking the California Highway Commission to adopt a route for the proposed Torrance Freeway which bypasses the city of Lomita has been introduced in Sacramento.

A SSEMBLYMAN Vincent Thomas (D-San Pedro) introduced the resolution in the Assembly Tuesday.

Thomas said he introduced the resolution at the request of the Lomita City Council.

The resolution asks the state Highway Commission and the director of public works "to consider the special circumstances in the city of Lomita and to locate the proposed Route 1 Freeway so as to bypass said city."

All 12 alternate routes studied by the state Department of Highways pass through some section of Lomita.

Reasons given by Assemblyman Thomas in asking for the special action include the size of that city (it is one of the county's smallest in area and most dense in population); general opposition to the freeway by residents and officials of the city; and the proximity of other thoroughfares — including the

The Civil Service Commission finally granted Saukkola permission to transfer to the city attorney's office.

NOLLAC, in an answer to the misconduct charges filed with the city last Monday, said the proceedings against him are the result of "personal animosity" toward him by City Manager Ferraro and Saukkola.

The public works director also

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Harbor and San Diego freeways — to the city.

Public hearings on the proposed route have been held and a decision on the final route is expected about mid-year from the Highway Commission.

Select Topic For Meeting Of ECT Group

"Special Education Programs for Independence" will be the topic Monday for a meeting of the Educational Council of Torrance.

Moderator James P. Becker will call the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. at the Torrance Recreation Center, 3341 Torrance Blvd.

Mrs. Virginia Huschke, special education assistant, and Dennis Schirmer, a mobility specialist instructor from North High, will be the speakers. Entertainment will be provided by the Upper Grade Chorus from Sepulveda Elementary School.